

## **DNR Accessibility Advisory Council Mtg.**

Monday, September 15, 2008

Okemos, Michigan

### **Advisory Council Present:**

- ☒ Sophie Baker, SOM, Dept of Civil Rights
- ☒ Rick Briggs, Brain Injury Assoc of MI
- ☒ Cindy Burkhour, Access to Recreation Initiative
- ☒ Vendella Collins, SOM, Developmental Disabilities Council (MDCH)
- ☐ Daryl Domke, Universal Design Consultant
- ☐ Jeff Coupie, Michigan Sports Unlimited
- ☒ Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone, MI Department of Veterans Affairs
- ☒ Rodney Haneline, Leader Dogs for the Blind
- ☐ Aaron Harris, Safari Club
- ☒ Roberta McCall, SOM, Michigan Commission for the Blind (DLEG)
- ☐ Roger McCarville, Disabilities Today
- ☒ Scott Norris, SOM, Library of Michigan
- ☐ Lucia Rios, Disability Network – Lakeshore
- ☐ Scott Severn, MI Paralyzed Veterans of America
- ☒ Bill Sheffer, MI Assn of Recreation Vehicles & Campgrounds
- ☒ Jim Trinklein, MI Assn of Game Bird Breeders & Hunting Preserves
- ☐ Mark Velthouse, Outdoors Without Limits
- ☒ John Witzke, MI United Conservation Clubs
- ☐ Duncan Wyeth, SOM, Commission on Disability Concerns (DLEG)

### **DNR Present:**

- ☒ Bonnie Arthur, Communications
- ☒ Vicki Brown, Wildlife
- ☐ Jordan Byelich, Parks & Rec
- ☐ Brenda Curtis, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☒ Jane Gordon, Law Enforcement
- ☒ Jerry Harris, Human Resources
- ☐ Julee Hasbany, Communications
- ☒ Linda Hegstrom, Grants
- ☐ Sharon Lawrence-Taylor, Legal Services
- ☒ Dan Lord, Parks & Rec
- ☐ Sharlene McConneghy, Law Enforcement
- ☐ Erica Moore, Fisheries
- ☐ Tami Pattison, Fisheries
- ☒ William Pemble, OLAF
- ☐ Peggy Ruby, Law Enforcement
- ☐ Donna Slater, Human Resources
- ☐ Paul Stoddard, OLAF
- ☐ Deb Stolecki, Forest Mineral and Fire Management
- ☐ Bruce Watkins, OLAF
- ☒ Ken Wright, Human Resources

**Guests Present:**

Terri Trinklein, MAGBHP  
Bill Milzarski, MCDC  
Nancy Bell, MUCC  
Dennis Fox, DNR  
Cheran Davis, DNR Human Resources

**Changes to Agenda:** None.

**Minutes:** Minutes approved.

**Review Accessible Grant Request Projects**

25% of grant dollars are dedicated to the development of projects while 75% will go to purchasing land. The DNR is trying to merge local and state communities to work together

PowerPoint Presentations were shown

Ocquoec Falls-the only park that is publicly owned

The parking lots gets more service than what it was actually built for; there is no way to turn around and it is not accessible. The paths around it are also worn.

The plans are to: expand the parking lot; install new vault toilets and walkways; relocation of the water well; moving the walkway to the falls; and making a defined route for campers.

Budget: \$ 500,000

If the project is selected, funding will not start until Summer '09 and construction could start Summer '10.

The project is under points for access. There are certain requirements to get these points. Currently the project has no points. It was advised that Brenda should interview people with disabilities in order to get their input to help with ADA compliance. In the grant request, make sure there is enough information to show that you are going above and beyond the ADA requirements.

Concerns about changing the equestrian paths were raised. The paths will not change so there is no conflict.

The project was denied last year because it was not focused on access to recreation. The new proposal includes access. (The DNR does not receive the grant money for access but they are eligible to receive the points for access).

### **J.W. Wells State Park**- Kellogg Foundation Project

All projects are redesigning current structures and remodeling trails or access. The lodge is 2 story so most of the improvements would take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. No elevator or lift will be placed in the lodge due to its historical context. There will also be plans to make the parking more accessible.

#### **Fishing Piers**

Dan is trying to get all proposed areas under the same contract so they can all be completed at the same time. The five locations have existing structures, three of them run programs that have 30 people or more in the area for outreach.

Budget: \$ 500,000

The Council should put information together to help everyone with the grant application process.

Recommendations for Wells lodge: Flashing smoke detectors, accessible information on the website, marketing brochures, educating the staff, reserving specific areas that are accessible and amplifications for phones. Roberta stated, "How do we maintain awareness and access to information (for people with vision impairments).

Recommendations for Fishing Piers: Going above and beyond the ADA requirements, accessible slopes near water, transition plates for changing from ground to dock, lowering all rails to 34' would go above and beyond the requirements and changing some of the language in the request.

The motion to move forward with the projects and letters of recommendations was properly moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Sheffer and Brigadier General Carol Ann Fausone.

Bill Pemble was requested to make a template recommendation for each project. A draft will/can be provided within three days.

### **Recruitment and Retention- Dennis Fox**

Presentation is shown.

So far, the Archery Program is not accessible for those that would need a modified bow. Inner city/urban areas are now being targeted.

Shooting ranges: Two grants are being used to make ranges cement and user friendly (there is a gravel parking lot)

Dennis' office is also focused on the Outdoors Woman, Recreational Safety, Taskforce 20/20 and MI Hunter Recruitment and Retention Implementation Team

October 17-19<sup>th</sup> is the Hunt at Fort Custer for individuals with disabilities. ITS FREE!! People only need to register.

### **2009 Meeting Dates**

Every six weeks is OK. Dates are OK. Location will still be the same.

Two dates would/should be somewhere off location for demonstration days. Demonstration days would more than likely be outside of the regular work days. An activity needs to be selected to attend.

Put on the agenda what we are going to commit to next year.

Attendance has been fading from some, should they be removed from the Council? This issue has come up before and will be addressed.

### **Council Response Items**

Respectful Communication training will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30-12pm at the Library of MI and Historical Center.

Accessibility Training- Temporary Meeting and Event training sessions are on September 16<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup>. There are two sessions each day.

Built facilities training sessions begin on September 17<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Send out the agenda to each Council member.

Brain Injury Conference- A-Team members will cover this event.

Rehabilitation Conference- Tami and Erica will be attending. Jerry will serve as representative for the Director.

Deer and Turkey Spectacular- Not sure of the extent of participation

Events Calendar- Two events have been added; refer to handout from Bill's email

Parking Lot Ideas- Please share your ideas; plan time at a future meeting to prioritize ideas

Lt. Governor Cherry visit at Wells State Park- The community raised \$45,000 and Kellogg added an addition \$500,000 to better the walkways

LCC Segway- Bill Pemble was walking in downtown Lansing and he saw a police officer on a segway. They are willing to provide us with feedback.

### **Multi-State Accessibility Consortium**

Each state is tasked with putting on an event. There will be a half-day inclusion seminar in Dearborn, MI in February.

A 16 page overview/brochure will be create for each State of Michigan

### **Disabilities Today Coverage**

Video was watched.

Letter to the Director is still in draft mode

### **Supervised Hunt Recommendations**

Aaron Harris thought the information looked great. The recommendation form the AAC goes to the DNR to be reviewed and considered. The title of the license could be changed to say Companion Hunt. Send out to Council electronically for recommendations.

Council members departed so there was no quorum to vote.

### **Department Actions Update**

CWD was only confirmed once in Kent County. 52 animals have be reviewed but there are no new cases. Quarantine is somewhat letting up with movement of animals. 562 cervids were placed on quarantine.

### **Public Comment**

A-Team minutes have to be updated

### **Open Announcements**

There was a flier on Scott at the Paralympics. Pictures are also available at xAble.com.

How and where do you get adaptive equipment? Could the Council put together a packet for adaptive equipment and what about grant money? Grant money can't be used for adaptive equipment-Add to parking lot list (financial resources for adaptive equipment)